



# CCM 2014 Testimony

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## ***PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE***

March 21, 2014

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

**HB 5584, "An Act Concerning Regionalism And Making Technical Changes To Statutes Concerning Municipal Tax Collection"**

CCM supports HB 5584.

HB 5584 would provide funding for identified pilot projects to help demonstrate the benefits and cost effectiveness of the nutmeg network.

The pilot projects identified by the MORE Regional Entities Back Office Functions would help to promote regionalism and provide municipalities the opportunity to save costs and would include but not be limited to efforts to promote savings through shared uniform chart of account data, voice over internet protocols to provide advanced communications and facilitate the long-term sharing of systems and software services between municipalities.

Additionally, CCM would recommend that changes be made to Section 1 to accurately reflect the proper Regional Council of Government each municipality belongs to. For example, as we understand it, the Southwestern Connecticut COG would include Sherman, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Stamford and Ridgefield. These towns were either included in another COG or not mentioned altogether.

**CCM urges the Committee to support HB 5584.**



If you have any questions, please contact Randy Collins, Senior Legislative Associate for CCM, at [rcollins@ccm-ct.org](mailto:rcollins@ccm-ct.org) or (860) 707-6446.